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INFO FOR PAOS

1. HIGHLIGHTS. THURSDAY PAPERS FRONTPAGED RICHARDSON UP-HOLDS RIGHT TO BOMB CAMBODIA. INSIDE WASHPOST HAD BRIEF ON BREZHNEV; NYTIMES HAD BEECHER REPORTING PENTAGON ASKING FUNDS FOR B-52 S TO EXTEND THEIR NON- NUCLEAR CAPABILITIES.

1 A. FRIDAY PAPERS HEADLINE PRESIDENT' S TV STATEMENTS ON MEAT PRICES, ALSO VIETNAM, BUT LITTLE PROMINENCE TO OTHER FOREIGN POLICY REMARKS ALTHOUGH BALTSUN HAS FRONTPAGE SUB-HEAD: NIXON URGES DEDICATION TO PEACE. SOME COMMENT ON TROOPS, SOVIET TAX, DEFENSE RESEARCH.

2. NIXON. PAPERS CARRY ADDRESS TEXT INSIDE; NEWS STORY VARY. NYTIMES HERBERS REPORTS WELL DOWN IN STORY THAT PRESIDENT WARNED AGAINST CUTS IN MILITARY BUDGET THAT WOULD MAKE US SECOND STRONGEST NATION IN WORLD, ALSO ADMONISHED NATION AGAINST BECOMING WEAK, SOFT AND SELF-INDULGENT.

2 A. BALTSUN KEAT STARTED WITH VIETNAM, THEN ADDED PRESIDENT URGED NATION NOT TO LET DOWN ITS GUARD, REJECTING ARGUMENTS DEFENSE BUDGET SHOULD BE CUT OR MOST TROOPS IN EUROPE BE CALLED HOME WITHOUT OFFSETTING FORCE REDUCTIONS BY SOVIET UNION, SAYING PAGES OF HISTORY ARE STREWN WITH WRECKAGE OF NATIONS WHICH FELL BECAUSE THEIR PEOPLE BECAME WEAK AND LOST THE CHARACTER WHICH HAD LED TO THEIR GREATNESS BUT PRESIDENT WAS CONFIDENT THIS WILL NOT HAPPEN TO AMERICA. LATER KEAT REPORTS PRESIDENT' S REMARKS ON KEEPING THE PEACE, NOTING LAST YEAR' S AGREEMENT WITH SOVIET UNION TO LIMIT DEFENSIVE NUCLEAR WEAPONS, PRESIDENT ADDING: BUT WE MUST NEVER FORGET WE WOULDN' T HAVE MADE LAST YEAR' S PROGRESS IF WE HADN' T HAD THE MILITARY STRENGTH THAT COMMANDED RESPECT. KEAT REPORTS NIXON SAID MBFR TALKS WOULD BE UNDERMINED BY UNILATERAL CUTS IN DEFENSE SPENDING OR TROOPS IN EUROPE, PRESIDENT SAYING IF US REDUCES ITS DEFENSES AND OTHERS DO NOT, IT INCREASES DANGER OF WAR. PRESIDENT ADDED: AMERICA HAS MAGNIFICANT OPPORTUNITY TO PLAY THE LEADING ROLE OF BRINGING DOWN THE WALLS OF HOSTILITY WHICH DIVIDE THE PEOPLE OF THE WORLD; LET US PUT ASIDE HONEST DIFFERENCES
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ABOUT THE WAR AND DEDICATE OURSELVES TO MEET THE GREAT

CHALLENGES OF PEACE WHICH CAN UNITE US.

2 B. WASHPOST HEADLINE ON MARDER INSIDE STRESSES TOUGH WARNINGS TO HANOI AND TO CRITICS AT HOME; MARDER STRESSES PRESIDENT CLAIMED VIETNAM EXPERIENCE PROVES CONCLUSIVELY THAT STRENGTH AND TOUGH DECISIONS PAY OFF IN DEALING WITH COMMUNISTS. MARDER ADDING NIXON' S OBJECTIVE WAS NOT MERELY TO WARN NORTH VIETNAM AGAINST ANY BREACH BUT BROADER OBJECTIVE WAS TO MOUNT AN OFFENSIVE AGAINST CONGRESSIONAL CRITICS WHO WOULD CUT HIS DEFENSE BUDGET OR UNILATERALLY REDUCE AMERICAN FORCES IN EUROPE WHILE NEGOTIATIONS ARE PENDING WITH SOVIET UNION. IF PRESIDENT' S APPROACH OF SCORN FOR AMERICANS WHO ADVOCATED PEACE AT ANY PRICE IN VIETNAM IS MAINTAINED, SAYS MARDER, IT PORTENDS A BRUISING CLASH WITH SENATE DEMOCRATS WHO VOTED FOR BROAD MILITARY CUTBACKS OVERSEAS AND FORETELLS A TOUGH STAND AGAINST CONGRESSIONAL CRITICS CHALLENGING CONTINUED US BOMBING OF CAMBODIA. MARDER SAYS IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER SOVIET UNION, WITH WHOM US IS NEGOTIATING AT SALT AND MBFR, WILL READ ANY NEW CHALLENGE INTO PRESIDENT' S REMARKS, MARDER ADDING NIXON' S OWN CONCLUSION WAS THAT SOVIET UNION IS MORE REALISTIC ABOUT THESE MATTERS THAN THE CONGRESSIONAL CRITICS, PRESIDENT SAYING: THERE IS ONE UNBREAKABLE

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